

App. No.: 10/714,836
Art Unit: 1751

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) An alkaline detergent composition comprising:
 - (a) an effective amount of a source of alkalinity sufficient to provide soil removal; and
 - (b) a binding agent dispersed throughout the composition, the binding agent comprising: (i) an alkali metal carbonate monohydrate; (ii) an organic sequestrant comprising an aminocarboxylic acid; (iii) and water; wherein in the binding agent, for each mole of the organic sequestrant composition there is about 3 to 10 moles of the carbonate monohydrate and 5 to 15 moles of water, and the binding agent has a melting transition temperature of greater than about 120°C.
2. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition further comprises an organo phosphonate.
3. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 2 wherein the ~~organic sequestrant~~ organo phosphonate comprises amino tri(methylene phosphonic) acid, 1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-diphosphonic acid, diethylenetriaminopenta(methylene phosphonic) acid, sodium salt thereof, or mixtures thereof.
- 4-5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the organic sequestrant comprises diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, N-hydroxyethylaminodiacetic acid,

App. No.: 10/714,836
Art Unit: 1751

hydroxyethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, N-hydroxyethyliminodiacetic acid, nitrilotriacetic acid, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, sodium salt thereof, or mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition additionally comprises a builder comprising sodium tripolyphosphate, sodium nitrilotriacetate, or mixtures thereof.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition additionally comprises a surfactant comprising a nonionic surfactant, an anionic surfactant or mixtures thereof.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the binding agent has a melting transition temperature of about 120°C to 160°C.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition, other than the binding agent, comprises a carbonate monohydrate and an anhydrous carbonate.

11. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 2 wherein the composition comprises a blend of two or more organophosphonate compounds, a blend of two or more aminocarboxylic acid compounds, or a blend of at least one organophosphonate and aminocarboxylic acid.

12. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~solid~~ composition is in the form of a pellet.

13. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~solid~~ composition is in the form of a solid block formed within a container.

App. No.: 10/714,836
Art Unit: 1751

14. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 further comprising about 0.1 to 15 wt.% of a nonionic surfactant, an anionic surfactant, or mixtures thereof.

15. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the organic sequestrant comprises N-hydroxyethyl-ethylenediaminetriacetic acid or sodium salt thereof.

16. (Previously presented) An alkaline detergent composition comprising:

(a) an effective amount of a source of alkalinity sufficient to provide soil removal; and

(b) a binding agent dispersed throughout the composition, the binding agent comprising: (i) an alkali metal carbonate monohydrate; (ii) an organic sequestrant comprising an organo phosphonate or an aminocarboxylic acid; (iii) and water; wherein the binding agent has a melting transition temperature of greater than about 120°C

the composition being in the form of a cast solid.

17. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the organic sequestrant comprises amino tri(methylene phosphonic) acid, 1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-diphosphonic acid, diethylenetriaminopenta(methylene phosphonic) acid, sodium salt thereof, or mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the organic sequestrant comprises diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, N-hydroxyethylaminodiacetic acid, hydroxyethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, N-hydroxyethyliminodiacetic acid, nitrilotriacetic acid, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, sodium salt thereof, or mixtures thereof.

19. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the organic sequestrant comprises N-hydroxyethyl-ethylenediaminetriacetic acid or sodium salt thereof.

App. No.: 10/714,836
Art Unit: 1751

20. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the composition further comprising a builder comprising sodium tripolyphosphate, sodium nitrilotriacetate, or mixtures thereof.

21. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the composition additionally comprises a surfactant comprising a nonionic surfactant, an anionic surfactant or mixtures thereof.

22. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the binding agent has a melting transition temperature of about 120°C to 160°C.

23. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the composition, other than the binding agent, comprises a carbonate monohydrate and an anhydrous carbonate.

24. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the composition is in the form of a high density, fused solid, concrete-like block.